

## Offices of Legal Counsel, Investigations and Enforcement

The Offices of Legal Counsel, Investigations and Enforcement work together to ensure the development of and adherence to effective, appropriate environmental rules and legislation.

The Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) provides legal guidance for all IDEM programs, assists with agency rule-making and legislative functions and represents IDEM in administrative and enforcement proceedings. During the last two years, OLC has focused on providing more timely and effective service to its various IDEM clients. The Office of Investigations performs criminal and civil investigations of environmental law violations.

The Office of Enforcement (OE) uses the administrative enforcement process to ensure entities violating environmental laws or rules are returned to compliance. OE provides swift, fair and consistent resolution of all cases referred by the program compliance staff. For the last two years, OE focused on expediting the enforcement action resolution process. In addition, OE increased its use of Supplemental Environmental Projects which allow companies to perform environmentally beneficial projects in lieu of a portion of an assessed cash penalty.

## Office of Public Policy and Planning

The Office of Public Policy and Planning develops and communicates policy, environmental requirements and information to constituents and provides support for the agency's communications needs. The office is divided into six focus areas. They include:

- **Regional Offices** Enable IDEM to better identify and respond to local environmental issues
- Agricultural Liaison Connects farmers and agribusiness representatives with IDEM
- Business and Legislative Relations Serves as IDEM's liaison to the Indiana General Assembly and assists businesses with environmental issues

- **Community Relations** Listens and responds to the public's environmental and IDEM related concerns
- Planning and Assessment Coordinates the identification, development and analysis of state environmental priorities and the fulfillment of federal requirements
- Media and Communications Services Provides the public with information through the media, publications and electronic information services